

Approved For Release 2003/05/27 : CIA-RDP86B00269R000500050047-0
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON

28 May 1948

Mr. Mathias F. Correa
Cahill, Gordon, Zachary and Reindel
63 Wall Street
New York, New York

Dear Matt:

I apologize for the failure to get these papers to you Wednesday, but one result of that failure is that more have been added.

As you will readily see, these papers are quite informal and incomplete, but I hope they will be helpful at the present stage. It is difficult to make any of these questions very intelligible out of context.

Allen will be in Washington today and part of tomorrow. I want to propose to him that I come to New York for a meeting next week so that we can review our present position and lay our plans for the immediate future before Bill, Allen and, later, you come down here on your respective long visits. If I come up, you can question me on the enclosed papers.

Sincerely yours,

May 17, 1948

With respect to the annexed news report * of an article prepared by General Sibert for the Encyclopedia Britannica, the following questions arise:

1. To what extent and by whom was authorization given to General Sibert to make the disclosures set forth and what considerations of policy entered into that decision? (This may not be a question for our Committee)

2. Was consideration given to the possible undesirability of having such published data and information identified with the Assistant Director of CIA?

* NYTimes, Sunday, May 16, 1948

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1948.

GEN. SIBERT TELLS OF SOVIET ARMING

**Russia Spent \$10,225,000,000
in '47 on Atomic and Other
Research and Equipment**

CHICAGO, May 15 (AP)—The Soviet Union spent more than \$1,225,000,000 on atom bomb development and other military research in 1947, according to Brig. Gen. Edwin L. Sibert, assistant director of the Central Intelligence Group in Washington. Writing as an individual, he said also in an article prepared for the 1948 Britannica Book of the Year that Russia laid out at least \$9,000,000,000 in 1947 for new equipment.

The U.S.S.R. kept more than 500 German scientists at work on guided missiles and other new weapons, among them a new tank which probably is the largest ever built.

The end of the second full post-

war year found more than 15,000,000 men in the land forces of all nations.

The strength of the active force of the armies of each of the great powers was thus listed: U.S.S.R., 3,800,000; United States, 670,000; Great Britain, 650,000; France, 430,000.

China was tops with 5,750,000. But these troops were split into two camps by civil war. Turkey ranked third with 675,000 men. General Sibert wrote that the Red Army kept the 3,800,000 figure although thirty classes of conscripts were let go after the second World War.

Armored Skills Developed

"Demobilization was on a systematic and selective basis," he added, "with basic infantrymen quickly released while technicians and armored force troops were retained. The result gave the Soviet Union an army with special skill in armored warfare.

"The Red Army maintained a professional cadre of approximately 2,000,000 officers and men. In addition, 800,000 to 1,000,000 men were being conscripted into the army each year for a two-year

period of service after which they reverted into the reserve. By this method the Soviet Union was building up a trained reserve which by 1955 would amount to 15,000,000-20,000,000 men."

The United States, listed as "the only major power without peacetime conscription," saw its army drop to "the equivalent of thirteen divisions and 670,000 men," said the general.

"All the major powers showed concern with the development of land forces transportable by air," the article continued. "This conception was combined with an emphasis on armored striking forces of high speed and considerable firepower designed for quick break-through thrusts. In most Armies the infantry division was strengthened by the addition of component armored units as well as organic anti-aircraft units."

Normal Training Suspended

The article also disclosed these things.

The bulk of the troops of most land powers was on duty outside the home land. For this reason Great Britain, France and the Uni-

ted States had to suspend normal training activities.

Only Russia, with 2,000,000 ground force men within its borders, was able to operate an effective training system. The Soviet Union's military manpower outside the U.S.S.R. was spread out this way:

"From 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 troops were engaged in occupation duties in Eastern Germany, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Austria and Hungary. Another 250,000 were on duty in northern Korea.

"Instructional groups remained in Yugoslavia and many officers in Polish uniforms were in reality Russians. Hundreds of thousands of discharged soldiers put on civilian clothes and became part of the civilian communities of satellite countries."

China's armies were sized up like this: about 3,500,000 men, half of them combat effectives, on the Central Government side, and a "fluctuating force" of 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 in the Communist fold.

Red Cross Gray Ladies last year served 2,161,436 hours in civilian and veteran hospitals. Support your Red Cross now.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON

14 May 1948

Mr. Mathias F. Correa
Cahill, Gordon, Zachary and Reindel
63 Wall Street
New York, New York

Dear Mat:

I think I have already mentioned to you the name of Edward L. Saxe as a possible member of our staff. Both Bill and Allen have seen Saxe and are quite favorably impressed.

I met Saxe during the war when he was Deputy Chief, Counter-Intelligence G-2, 12th Army Group. He has had considerable experience and has a good understanding of intelligence matters, derived partly from considerable association with the British. He has maintained an active interest in the problem. My thought was that Saxe would be very useful to handle the survey with regard to the Army and also an overall counter-intelligence survey. I suggest that you call him and ask him to get in touch with you. He can be reached at Columbia Broadcasting System, where he is a Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President.

Sincerely yours,

Bob

Robert Blum